

HOUSE BILL 3107  
By Ferguson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3  
and Title 68, relative to department of health employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1.

(a) The general assembly recognizes that full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health perform duties and responsibilities of comparable scope and complexity as that of persons in the same classifications in the department of environment and conservation. Environmental specialists protect the health of Tennesseans through rabies prevention and treatment, prevention of foodborne illnesses, inspections of restaurants, tattoo studios, bed and breakfast establishments, public swimming pools, and other such means. The costs to Tennesseans of inefficient or incompetent environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications would be staggering.

(b) It is the intent of the general assembly that full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health shall be entitled to the same compensation and benefits enjoyed by persons in comparable classifications in the department of environment and conservation.

(c) The department of finance and administration and the department of personnel are hereby directed to take all measures necessary to ensure the equitable compensation of full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health. To ensure such equitable compensation, full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health shall receive compensation equivalent to that of environmental

specialists in the department of environment and conservation, based upon years of state employment service and experience.

(d) Any difference in compensation of environmental specialists in the department of environment and conservation with the full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health, apart from longevity pay pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-23-206, shall be made retroactive to November 1, 2002. The provisions of this subsection shall only apply to full-time environmental specialists and related managerial job classifications in the department of health who were employed in such positions on November 1, 2002.

## SECTION 2.

(a) No adjustment arising from the salary adjustment prescribed in this act shall take effect until such adjustment is funded in the general appropriations act.

(b) The payment of such adjustment or increase in the salary schedule is conditioned upon such adjustment or increase being funded in the general appropriations act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.